

TWO NEW AFRICAN SPHINGIDAE.

BY DR. KARL JORDAN.

1. *Polyptychus grayi niloticus* subsp. nov. (text-figs. 1, 2).

♀. On upperside of forewing the undulate double line which crosses apex of cell vestigial; no crenulate line between discal and postdiscal lines (also in fresh specimens??). Fringe of hindwing not spotted brown and white, the short scales being all brown and the long ones white.—Underside almost uniformly greyish fawn (Ridgway, *Nomencl. Colours*, iii. 22), terminal area not deeper brown than centre of wings; on both wings the discal line rather thick,

FIGS. 1 AND 2.—*P. grayi niloticus*.

with barely a trace of a second line on its distal side; postdiscal line sharp and thin.

Genital sclerite sinuate centrally in front of the orifice; this antevaginal ridge much plicate, thicker than in *P. g. grayi*; from sinus frontad extends an obtuse carina flanked by a deep depression each side (text-fig. 1).

Length of forewing: 36 mm.

Hab. White Nile, lat. 12° 11' (Capt. Yardley); 1 ♀ in Tring Museum.

A much-battered ♂ in the Oxford Museum from the Sudan also belongs to this subspecies. It is distinguished from *P. g. grayi* ♂ by the above-mentioned slight differences in colour, and by the genitalia, especially the armature of the claspers. In *P. g. grayi* the large hook of the harpe is curved towards the sagittal plane of the body, standing more or less erect on the plane of the clasper; in the Sudanese ♂ the hook lies flat on the clasper (text-fig. 2). Moreover, proximally to this hook the harpe bears a tooth, which is absent from *P. g. grayi*.

One ♂ in Oxford Museum from South End of Talodi Range, Nuba Hills, Sudan, July 24, 1918 (R. S. Wilson).

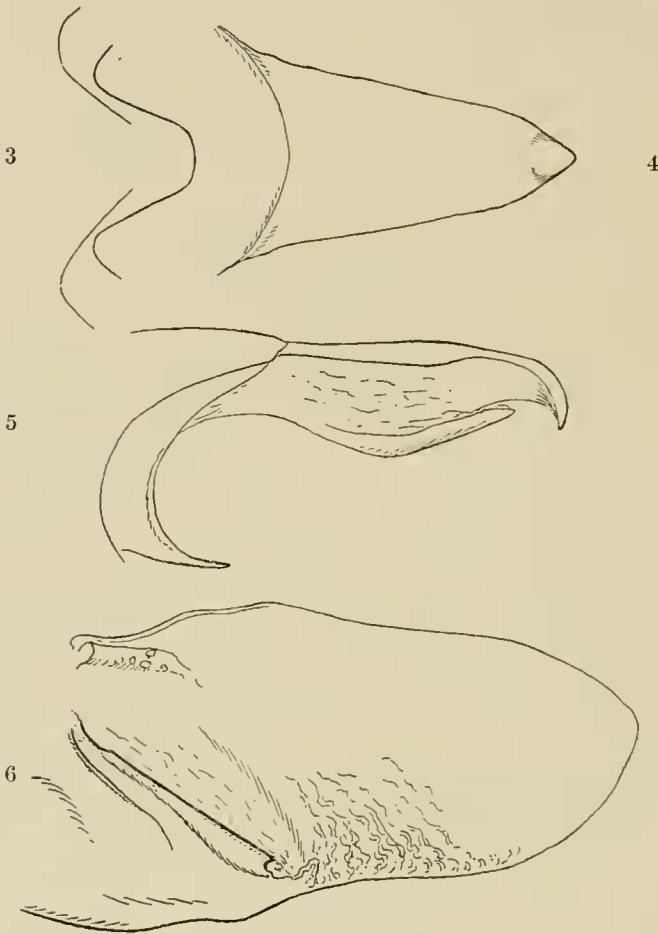
2. *Polyptychus delicatus* sp. nov. (text-figs. 3-6).

♂. Luteo-griseus; alis integris, antica lineis transversis e lunulis nigris compositis ornata, postica flava.

Long. al. ant. 29 mm., lat. 14 mm.

Hab. Diego Suarez, Madagascar, March 1917 (G. Melou), 1 ♂.

Proboscis large. Palpus with the joint open; second segment longer than it is broad in side-view, slightly narrowing apicad, apex not truncate. Head



FIGS. 3-6.—*P. delicatus*.

with raised median tuft. Antenna rather slender, strongly compressed, ventral outline even, each segment very slightly incurved in middle (lateral aspect), median segments much higher than long, penultimate one longer than high. Foretibia strongly spinose on dorsal side, at apex a long spine (broken off in both tibiae in our specimen), epiphysis large, reaching apex of foretibia; mid- and hindtibiae grey above, spurs non-spinose, long apical one of hindtibia reaching to middle of first tarsal segment.

Body and wings creamy buff (Ridgway, *Nomencl. Colours*, v. 11). Wings entire; termen of forewing convex, apical angle a little less than 90° ; three blackish lines on forewing: first antemedian, obsolescent, commencing at costal margin 9 mm. from base, running obliquely across cell to above point of origin of M^1 , here broken at a right angle and running straight to hindmargin, this second portion of the line twice or thrice interrupted; proximally to this line a faint trace of a blackish spot or line; nearly 3 mm. from lower cell-angle a slightly S-shaped line crosses the disc, composed of diffuse lunules, outside this line and posteriorly joining it a row of small lunules, obsolete near costa; a postdiscal line of more sharply marked lunules almost straight, posteriorly 2 mm. distant from median line, and nearly 5 mm. from apex of SM^2 , anteriorly 3 mm. from tip of wing; fringe with a slight tawny tint.—Hindwing uniformly ochre-yellow, with the fringe and abdominal margin creamy buff.

Underside creamy buff; forewing ochre-yellow to beyond middle, this colour gradually shading off, beyond middle a continuous transverse line, curved and blackish from costal margin to near R^2 , then yellowish and faint, crossing M^2 about 9 mm. from termen; 4 to 5 mm. outside this line a faint trace of a second line, and more distal still an oblique thin blackish streak extending from R^2 towards apex of wing, which it does not reach.—On hindwing two blackish parallel lines, continuous, about 3.5 mm. distant from each other, the proximal one near lower cell-angle, more prominent than the outer line, both obsolescent behind; before anal angle the base of fringe brown.

Neuration: R^2 of hindwing above middle of cell-apex, upper cross-vein curved or angulate, lower cell-angle acute.

Genitalia: Tenth tergite long, gradually narrower to near apex, then rather abruptly acuminate, flattened above (text-figs. 4 and 5). Tenth sternite (text-fig. 3) short, somewhat broader basally than long, strongly rounded off. Clasper (text-fig. 6) without friction-scales, sole-shaped, without projecting armature; the oblique, smooth, rather more strongly chitinized, oblique margin of the triangular basi-ventral portion of the clasper represents the harpe. Penis-funnel broad, short, triangular, with the tip truncate and slightly sinuate. Penis-sheath broad, flattened, slightly curved, with the edges sharp, and with a longitudinal median carina on apical portion.

In the shape of the wings not unlike *P. mutata* Walk. (1855), but quite different in colouring and the large tongue.